

OSC Dennis Matlock reported that weekend operations focused on managing the water on-site. Pumping operations continued through the weekend, including the interceptor trench, the oil/water separator loading area, and the water levels in the containment areas. The interceptor trench was pumped approximately once every two hours overnight. Low temperatures and light snow fall caused some of the water on site to freeze and decreased the flow of water through the site.

The facility announced Friday that they will focus all of their attention and finances on remediation of the spill and as a result will begin laying off staff at both the Etowah facility and the Poca facility. The layoffs will occur over approximately six weeks. The facility is assisting the employees finding employment with their suppliers and companies that perform similar services.

The facility reports that approximately 40,000 gallons of product remain on-site, including the fatty acid heel. They expect this product to be off-site this week. The fatty acid should be profiled today.

The facility is attempting to determine the correct way to cut the tanks on site. The tanks have lead paint and the facility is deciding on the safest remediation method before engaging a contractor.

The WVDEP requested that the facility replace the dirty absorbent booms in the river. No contamination is visible on the booms, but the effectiveness of the booms is decreased when they are dirty.